



**NEWS RELEASE
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**The Purcellville Arts Council Announces Artwork Exhibit by Eric Wickstrom
and a NEW DATE for the Meet the Artist Reception**

PURCELLVILLE, Va. May 16, 2016 — The second in a series of 3-month long art exhibits in Purcellville's Town Hall features the works of local artist Eric Wickstrom. The show runs from April 25th to June 30th, 2016. The first floor corridors of Town Hall now have a gallery-level hanging system which creates an opportunity for local artists to exhibit their work. Art exhibitions in Town Hall also ensure that all members of the public have access to art.

A New Date has been set for the Meet-The-Artist reception. It will take place in Purcellville's Town Hall on Wednesday, June 1st, from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. The public is welcome to join Eric Wickstrom and the Purcellville Arts Council in a celebration of Wickstrom's work. The show may otherwise be seen according to regular Town Hall office hours (Mon. – Fri. 8:00am - 5:00pm except holidays).

Photography is a lifelong interest for Eric (as he prefers to be called). He took his first “serious” photograph as a teenager. He was serving on shipboard in the US Navy in the late 1950s and following one very lucky shot, he decided to study how to best repeat that success more often than failing at it. That has led to an enduring effort to understand the fundamentals of light, color and composition... a process that continues to this day.

Eric's photography knows no subject bounds. He believes all things are intrinsically interesting enough to warrant the time spent to photograph them. His photography is completely “traditional,” in that it is neither “interpretive” nor “creative” in its presentation. He strives to present subjects realistically, as they were seen at the time of their capture, either on film or in digital form. Only minimal software intrusion is allowed, and that only to eliminate distractions to the main subject never to add to or manipulate the reality of the moment the photograph was taken.

Eric and his wife still travel extensively with cameras, of course. They have taken multiple game safaris in Africa; they love to explore ancient sites and cities around the world; and they continually seek out the many, many interesting facets of rural Americana. His work in Purcellville's Town Hall reflects images of the local landscape as well as interesting subject matter to be found in other parts of the world.

Art exhibits are currently booked through the beginning of 2017 with the Arts Council accepting submissions for future shows. All artwork is decided upon by an outside jury. Please send inquiries to the Town of Purcellville, attention: Melanie Scoggins at msscoggins@purcellvilleva.gov.

The Town of Purcellville, Virginia

Purcellville is an award-winning town of nearly 8,500 residents located in Loudoun County, approximately 40 miles west of Washington, DC. It has been honored for its green initiatives, most recently with the prestigious Siemens Sustainability Award for Small Communities. The Town has an elected Mayor and six Town Council members. Once a stop along the W&OD rail line, Purcellville has maintained its historic old-town feel through the restoration and maintenance of its many downtown structures, reflecting the Victorian architecture popular during the early 1900s. Today, Purcellville is the economic hub of western Loudoun County and a popular weekend destination for antiquing, entertainment, farmer's markets, wineries, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. More info at www.purcellvilleva.gov.

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